

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

Claims 1-95 (canceled)

96. (Previously presented) A method for making a stained molecular weight marker, said method comprising

- (a) producing a thioredoxin polypeptide comprising thioredoxin or a modified thioredoxin having the ability to form inclusion bodies upon expression in a bacterial host cell; and
- (b) incubating the thioredoxin polypeptide with a protein-binding dye to form a stained molecular weight marker.

97. (Previously presented) The method of claim 96, further comprising admixing the thioredoxin polypeptide with a plurality of stained polypeptides of different molecular weights to form a plurality of pre-stained molecular weight markers.

98. (Previously presented) The method of claim 96, further comprising admixing the thioredoxin polypeptide with a plurality of stained polypeptides of different molecular weights to form a pre-stained molecular weight ladder.

99. (Previously presented) The method of claim 96, wherein the producing step comprises producing a thioredoxin polypeptide comprising an *E. coli* thioredoxin or a modified *E. coli* thioredoxin having the ability to form inclusion bodies upon expression in a bacterial host cell.

100. (Previously presented) The method of claim 96, wherein the producing step comprises producing a modified thioredoxin polypeptide comprising a modified thioredoxin having the ability to form inclusion bodies upon expression in a bacterial host cell.

101. (Previously presented) The method of claim 96, wherein the producing step comprises producing a thioredoxin polypeptide comprising a truncated thioredoxin having the ability to form inclusion bodies upon expression in a bacterial host cell.

102. (Previously presented) The method of claim 96, wherein the producing step comprises producing a thioredoxin polypeptide comprising a carboxy terminal-truncated thioredoxin having the ability to form inclusion bodies upon expression in a bacterial host cell.

103. (Previously presented) The method of claim 96, wherein the producing step comprises producing a thioredoxin polypeptide comprising a thioredoxin having a truncation of between 2 and 50 carboxy terminal amino acids.

104. (Previously presented) The method of claim 96, wherein the producing step comprises producing a thioredoxin polypeptide comprising a thioredoxin having a truncation of between 33 and 50 carboxy terminal amino acids.

105. (Previously presented) The method of claim 96, wherein the producing step comprises producing a thioredoxin polypeptide having a truncation of between 2 and 33 carboxy terminal amino acids.

106. (Previously presented) The method of claim 96, wherein the producing step comprises producing a thioredoxin polypeptide having a truncation of between 2 and 22 carboxy terminal amino acids.

107. (Previously presented) The method of claim 96, wherein the producing step comprises producing a thioredoxin polypeptide having a truncation of between 23 and 33 carboxy terminal amino acids.

108. (Currently amended) The method of claim 96, wherein the producing step comprises producing a thioredoxin polypeptide having a truncation of 23 carboxy terminal amino acids.

109. (Previously presented) The method of claim 96, wherein the producing step comprises producing a thioredoxin polypeptide having a molecular weight of 10 kD.

110. (Previously presented) The method of claim 96, wherein the producing step comprises producing a thioredoxin polypeptide having a carboxy terminal-truncated form of *Escherichia coli* thioredoxin which is encoded by a nucleic acid molecule having a nucleotide sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:8

Claims 111-116 (canceled)